

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A combination comprising:

a partition assembly including intersecting slotted partitions arranged in a matrix,
a container having walls extending upwardly from a bottom, said bottom and said walls of said container defining an interior of said container;
said partitions being of a length such that said partition assembly may fit in said interior of said container without bending said partitions;
wherein said partition assembly is held in said interior of said container by at least one hook and loop fastener.

Claim 2. (Original) The combination of claim 1 wherein said hook and loop fastener comprises a first component secured to an inner surface of one of said container walls and a second component secured to one of said partitions.

Claim 3. (Original) The combination of claim 2 wherein one of said components has hooks engaged with loops on the other of said components.

Claim 4. (Original) The combination of claim 2 wherein said second component is adhesively secured to said one of said partitions.

Claim 5. (Original) The combination of claim 2 wherein said second component of said hook and loop fastener is a piece of fabric adhesively secured to opposite side surfaces of said one of said partitions.

Claim 6. (Original) The combination of claim 2 wherein said second component of said hook and loop fastener functions as a flexible extension of said one of said partitions.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) The combination of claim 2 wherein said second component of said hook and loop fastener has an exterior surface which has a plurality of loops ~~on an exterior surface thereof~~.

Claim 8. (Original) The combination of claim 2 wherein said second component of said hook and loop fastener is a flexible tab.

Claim 9. (Original) The combination of claim 1 wherein said partitions are plastic.

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) A combination comprising:

a container;

a partition assembly for ~~insertion into a container~~ for dividing [[the]] space inside the container, said container having a plurality of walls, one component of a two part hook and loop fastener being secured to an inner surface of one of said walls of said container, said partition assembly comprising:

a plurality of first slotted partitions;

a plurality of second slotted partitions;

said first and second slotted partitions being arranged in a matrix;

one of said slotted partitions having a flexible tab at the end thereof, said flexible tab comprising a second component of said two part hook and loop fastener adapted for engagement with said first component of said two part hook and loop fastener without bending any of said partitions, wherein said tab may be bent to either side of said one of said slotted partitions to engage said first component of said two part hook and loop fastener.

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) The ~~partition assembly~~ combination of claim 10 wherein each of said partitions is plastic.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) A combination comprising:

a container;

a partition assembly for insertion into [[a]] said container, said container having walls extending upwardly from a bottom, said bottom and walls defining an interior of said container, the linear distance between inner surfaces of two opposed walls of said container defining a width of an interior of said container and the distance between inner surfaces of the other two opposed walls of said container defining a length of said interior of said container, one component of a two part hook and loop fastener being secured to an inner surface of one of said walls of said container, said partition assembly comprising:

a plurality of first slotted partitions, each first slotted partition having a series of slots extending inwardly from an edge thereof;

a plurality of second slotted partitions, each second slotted partition having a series of slots extending inwardly from an edge thereof;

said first and second slotted partitions being arranged in a matrix, one of said slots of a first slotted partition being engaged with one of said slots of a second slotted partition at an intersection;

each of said first slotted partitions being shorter than said width of said interior of said container and each of said second slotted partition being shorter than said length of said container;

one of said slotted partitions having a flexible tab at the end thereof, said flexible tab comprising a second component of said two part hook and loop fastener for engagement with said first component of said two part hook and loop fastener on either side of said one of said slotted partitions.

Application No. 10/629,726
Amdt. dated March 14, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 15, 2005

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) The ~~partition assembly~~ combination of claim 12 wherein each of said partitions is plastic.

Claim 14. (Cancelled)

Claim 15. (Cancelled)

Claim 16. (Cancelled)

Claim 17. (Cancelled)

Claim 18. (Cancelled)

Claim 19. (Cancelled)

Claim 20. (Cancelled)

Claim 21. (New) A combination comprising:

a container having walls extending upwardly from a bottom, said bottom and said walls of said container defining an interior of said container;

a partition assembly including slotted partitions arranged in a matrix, said partitions being of a length such that said partition assembly may fit in said interior of said container without bending said partitions;

wherein said partition assembly is held in said interior of said container by at least one hook and loop fastener comprising a first component secured to an inner surface of one of said container walls and a second flexible component secured to one of said partitions, said second flexible component being adapted to bend both clockwise and counterclockwise relative to said one of said partitions.

Claim 22. (New) The combination of claim 21 wherein said partitions are plastic.

Claim 23. (New) The combination of claim 21 wherein one of said components has hooks engaged with loops on the other of said components.

Claim 24. (New) The combination of claim 21 wherein said second component is adhesively secured to said one of said partitions.

Claim 25. (New) The combination of claim 21 wherein said second component of said hook and loop fastener is a piece of fabric adhesively secured to opposite side surfaces of said one of said partitions.

Claim 26. (New) The combination of claim 21 wherein said second component of said hook and loop fastener functions as a generally planar extension of said one of said partitions.

Claim 27. (New) The combination of claim 21 wherein said second component of said hook and loop fastener has an exterior surface which has a plurality of loops.

Claim 28. (New) A combination comprising:

a container having walls extending upwardly from a bottom, said bottom and side walls defining an interior of the container;

a partition assembly for dividing the interior of the container, one component of a two part hook and loop fastener being secured to an inner surface of one of the walls of the container, the partition assembly comprising:

a plurality of first and second slotted partitions arranged in a matrix;

one of the slotted partitions having a flexible tab sandwiched around the end thereof, said flexible tab comprising a second component of the two part hook and loop fastener adapted for engagement with the first component of the two part hook and loop fastener without bending any of the partitions.

Claim 29. (New) The combination of claim 28 wherein each of said partitions is plastic.

Claim 30. (New) The combination of claim 28 wherein each of said second component of said two part hook and loop fastener has a removable backing covering an adhesive surface, said adhesive surface adapted to attach to said ends of said slotted partitions.

Claim 31. (New) The combination of claim 28 wherein each of said second component of said two part hook and loop fastener is adapted to planarly extend said partition.

Claim 32. (New) The combination of claim 28 wherein said one component of a two part hook and loop fastener has a removable backing covering an adhesive surface, said adhesive surface being secured to an inner surface of one of said walls of said container.

Claim 33. (New) A combination comprising:

- a container having walls extending upwardly from a bottom, said bottom and side walls defining an interior of the container, one component of a two part hook and loop fastener being secured to an inner surface of one of said walls of said container;

- a partition assembly comprising:

- a plurality of first slotted partitions, each first slotted partition having a series of slots extending inwardly from an edge thereof;

- a plurality of second slotted partitions, each second slotted partition having a series of slots extending inwardly from an edge thereof;

Application No. 10/629,726
Amdt. dated March 14, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 15, 2005

said first and second slotted partitions being arranged in a matrix, one of said slots of a first slotted partition being engaged with one of said slots of a second slotted partition at an intersection;

one of said slotted partitions having a flexible tab sandwiched around the end thereof, said flexible tab comprising a second component of said two part hook and loop fastener for engagement with said first component of said two part hook and loop fastener.